



Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

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December 16, 2016

Mary Nichols
Chair, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Nichols,

Subject: Letter from Fresno County Rural Transit Agency describing possible VW Investment Commitment Projects in the Fresno County Area

The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) is pleased to have this opportunity to make written comments regarding the Volkswagen (VW) Settlement and their future California ZEV Investments.

FCRTA is fortunate to find out that VW is committing to fund many ZEV Investments in California and also serve Disadvantaged Area Communities (DAC) throughout this state.

FCRTA serves Fresno County, specifically rural Fresno County. Virtually all of the rural areas in Fresno County are DACs and all are in great need of ZEV Investments. The member agencies of FCRTA are the Cities of Coalinga, Firebaugh, Orange Cove, Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, Mendota, Huron, Reedley, Sanger, Kerman, San Joaquin, and Parlier. Of these thirteen (13) Cities, only the City of Coalinga is not a DAC. FCRTA wishes to propose VW Investment Commitment projects that will benefit all thirteen (13) of its member Cities within Fresno County. All of the following projects are considered to be regionally significant within in Fresno County and the greater San Joaquin Valley.

FCRTA is proposing eight (8) projects for consideration by VW and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that FCRTA considers be appropriate, cost-effective, innovative, and meet the eligible ZEV Investments criteria contained in Appendix C of the VW 2.0L Partial Consent Decree. These proposed eight (8) projects are detailed in the attached Excel File matrix. All of the projects listed in this document contain a project description, projected project cost, project location, project time period, project type, and project classification.

Please note that two (2) out of the eight (8) projects have locations that are currently undetermined. FCRTA is proposing this because it considers these particular projects to be very important and transformative for the selected DACs. Due to the project complexity, expense, and its anticipated impact on the DAC, the designation of a particular DAC location is considered to be premature at this time. So, a list of six (6) DACs considered to be most in need is presented for consideration by CARB and VW. By doing this, FCRTA hopes that the final decision for location designation is made by CARB and VW after consideration of many factors including: geographic; technological; local electric infrastructure, local transportation infrastructure, the local economy, and funding considerations. FCRTA stands ready to consult with CARB and VW and aid in helping make a final location designation for each of these two projects.

FCRTA trusts that the proposed projects will be selected by VW for implementation. FCRTA is happy to answer any questions that CARB and VW might have and will provide any relevant information about these projects and FCRTA member Cities upon request.

We thank you for an opportunity to comment on the VW Settlement ZEV Investment Commitment discussion and look forward to hearing from the CARB and VW regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Moses Stites, General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency